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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,252	07/29/2003	Robert M. McAlister	16356.816 (DC-05143)	6709
27683	7590	07/28/2006	EXAMINER	
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP 901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3100 DALLAS, TX 75202			CARPIO, IVAN HERNAN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/629,252

Applicant(s)

MCALISTER, ROBERT M.

Examiner

Ivan H. Carpio

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 4/25/05 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 5/12/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant's first argument with regards to claims 1,5,8,12 and 20 is that the Navia reference does not teach two members and instead teaches a single member injection molded plastic, examiner respectfully disagrees. A member is a part of a whole, and clearly Navia teaches two members (element 12 the top and bottom strips) to make up the whole structure (element 10). Applicants 2<sup>nd</sup> argument with respect to claim 20 is that Navia does not teach all of the limitations and that the 103(b) rejection does not establish a prima facie case of obviousness, however the applicant does not point out specific deficiencies and the examiner holds the rejection to be correct and appropriate.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Navia (US Patent 5175669).

With respect to claim 1 Navia teaches a support apparatus (Fig. 1a,b,c) comprising: a first member (Fig. 1a, top strip element 12) in a first orientation having a first portion (Fig. 1a strip 12 in between elements 24) and a second portion (Fig. 1a, element 24); a second member (Fig.1a, the bottom strip element 12) in a second orientation inverted from the first orientation, the second member being, identical to the first member, and having a first portions and a second portions, the first portions of the first and second members being spaced apart (Fig. 1a) ; and the second portions of the first and second members including overlapping interlocking sections such that the first and second members are interconnected (Fig. 1a, the two sides of element 20) and form an interlocking continuous double-walled reinforcing member.

With respect to claim 2 and with all the limitations of claim 1, Navia teaches that second portions of the first member overlap the second portions of the second member (Fig.1a note that the ribs overlap in the vertical direction).

With respect to claim 3 and with all the limitations of claim 1, Navia teaches that the first portions of each member include a span (fig.1a, note the flat regions between elements 24) and the second portions of each member include a rib (Fig.1a, elements 24).

With respect to claim 4 and with all the limitations of claim 1, Navia teaches that the first member is a ribbed member and the second member is a ribbed member (Fig. 1a), identical to the first ribbed member.

With respect to claim 5 Navia teaches a support apparatus comprising: a first ribbed member in a first orientations (Fig.1a the top strip element facing down); and a

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second ribbed member (Fig.1a the bottoms strip 12), identical to the first ribbed member and attached to the first ribbed member (Fig.1a, the two sides of element 20) in a second orientation (Fig.1a the bottom member facing up) inverted from the first orientation, the first and second members each including a span (Fig 1a, the flat regions between elements 24) and overlapping interlocking sections whereby the first and second members are joined to form a continuous double-walled reinforcing member.

With respect to claim 6 and with all the limitations of claim 5, Navia teaches that the portions of the first ribbed member overlap portions of the second ribbed member (Fig.1a note that the ribs overlap in the vertical direction).

With respect to claim 7 and with all the limitations of claim 6, Navia teaches that the first and second ribbed member are attached (Fig.1a,c the members are attached by the channel 50 which spans the entire gap between them including the overlap region) at a position wherein the overlap occurs.

With respect to claim 8 Navia teaches a computer (Fig. 3) comprising; a chassis (Fig. 3, element 28) and a support member (Fig.3, element 10) mounted in the chassis, the support member including: a first member (Fig. 1a, top strip element 12) in a first orientation having a first portion (Fig. 1a strip 12 in between elements 24) and a second portion (Fig. 1a, element 24); a second member (Fig.1a, the bottom strip element 12) in a second orientation inverted from the first orientation, the second member being identical to the first member, and having a first portions and a second portions, the first portions of the first and second members being spaced apart (Fig. 1a) ; and the second portions of the first and second members including overlapping interlocking sections

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such that the first and second members are interconnected (Fig. 1a, the two sides of element 20) and to form an interlocking continuous double-walled reinforcing member.

With respect to claim 9 and with all the limitations of claim 8, Navia teaches that the second portions of the first member overlap the second portions of the second member (Fig. 1a note that the ribs overlap in the vertical direction).

With respect to claim 10 and with all the limitations of claim 8, Navia teaches that the first portions of each member include a span (fig. 1a, note the flat regions between elements 24) and the second portions of each member include a rib (Fig. 1a, elements 24).

With respect to claim 11 and with all the limitations of claim 8, Navia teaches that the first member is a ribbed member and the second member is a ribbed member, identical to the first ribbed member.

With respect to claim 12 Navia teaches an information handling system (Fig. 3) comprising: a chassis (Fig. 3, element 28); a microprocessor mounted in the chassis and a storage coupled to the microprocessor (Navia teaches that figure 3 is a personal computer and inherently personal computers have coupled microprocessors and memory storage); and a support member including: first member (Fig. 1a, top strip element 12) in a first orientation having a first portion (Fig. 1a strip 12 in between elements 24) and a second portion (Fig. 1a, element 24); a second member (Fig. 1a, the bottom strip element 12), having a first portions and a second portions, the second member being identical to the first member and being in a second orientation inverted from the first orientation; the first portions of the first and second members being

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spaced apart (Fig. 1a) ; and the second portions of the first and second members including overlapping interlocking sections such that the first and second members are interconnected (Fig.1a, the two sides of element 20) and forming an interlocking continuous double-walled reinforcing member.

With respect to claim 13 and with all the limitations of claim 12, Navia teaches that the portions of the first ribbed member overlap portions of the second ribbed member (Fig.1a note that the ribs overlap in the vertical direction).

With respect to claim 14 and with all the limitations of claim 12, Navia teaches that the first portions of each member include a span (fig.1a, note the flat regions between elements 24) and the second portions of each member include a rib (Fig.1a, elements 24).

With respect to claim 15 and with all the limitations of claim 12, Navia teaches that the first member is a ribbed member and the second member is a ribbed member, identical to the first ribbed member.

With respect to claim 16 and with all the limitations of claim 13, Navia teaches that the first and second ribbed member are attached (Fig.1a,c the members are attached by the channel 50 which spans the entire gap between them including the overlap region) at a position wherein the overlap occurs.

With respect to claim 17 and with all the limitations of claim 12, Navia teaches that the support member is secured between a pair of opposed surfaces in the chassis (Fig. 3 note that the support member is attached at openings 38 and 40).

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With respect to claim 18 and with all the limitations of claim 12, Navia teaches that the first and second members include a flange (Fig. 1b, element 16).

With respect to claim 19 and with all the limitations of claim 18, Navia teaches that each flange is attached to the chassis (Fig.3, element 16 and 40).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20 and 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Navia.

With respect to claim 20 Navia teaches a method of reinforcing a computer chassis (Fig. 3 note that structure 10 provides a reinforcement to the chassis in the direction of its attachment to the chassis) comprising: providing a first ribbed member (Fig. 1a, top strip element 12 facing down) in a first orientation, providing a second ribbed member (Fig.1a, bottom strip element 12 facing up), identical to the first ribbed member, in a second orientation inverted from the first orientation; attaching the first ribbed member to the second ribbed member (Fig. 1a, note that both elements 12 are attached by the sides of element 20), each member including a span and overlapping



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interlocking sections whereby the first and second members are joined to form a continuous double-walled reinforcing member and securing the attached ribbed members in the computer chassis (Fig. 3 note the ribbed members are attached to the chassis).

Even if Navia doesn't specifically teach that two separate ribbed members are attached it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have two separate members and attach them together because if one of the ribs were to break then replacement of a single ribbed member could be accomplished reducing the cost of fixing the support.

With respect to claim 21 Navia teaches that the attached ribbed members (Fig.1a, element 10) are secured between a pair of opposed surfaces in the computer chassis (Fig.3).

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ivan H. Carpio whose telephone number is 571-272-8396. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 6:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kammie Cuneo can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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